



Mills Oakley hires leading Projects and Energy & Resources expert

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Leading independent law firm Mills Oakley is investing in its projects and energy & resources capability with the hire of respected expert **Robert de Boer** in Sydney.

Mr de Boer was previously a partner of some 17 years standing at Herbert Smith Freehills, where he cultivated a reputation as one of the foremost specialists in his areas of expertise. Robert left HSF in 2017 and has spent the past 18 months as part of the leadership team of a San Francisco based tech start-up developing a high capacity transit technology system utilising a fleet of autonomous electric vehicles.

Robert has more than 20 years of experience in energy & resources, bringing a strong corporate and commercial background advising boards and senior management on complex government and corporate projects relating to renewable energy, sustainable energy and energy regulation. He is also known for his expertise in the natural resources, mining, infrastructure and transportation sectors.

Robert's practice has a strong international flavour, having led projects in South East and North Asia, the United States, the United Kingdom, South America and Africa. Clients Robert has worked with include Lendlease, GPT, First Philippine Holdings, Energy Development Corporation, KEPCO, Essential Energy and Trafigura.

Mills Oakley CEO John Nerurker said that the firm was fortunate to have secured an outstanding talent: "Energy and resources has been a growth area for Mills Oakley over the past year and we have added a number of high profile clients in this space," he said. "With his global connections and world-class expertise, Robert is ideally positioned to take the practice to the next level."

Robert said that he was attracted by Mills Oakley's innovative culture:

"In my time in the San Francisco Bay Area, I worked with not only the start-up community, but also global vehicle manufacturers and construction companies, world cities, campuses and private property developers.. I see a lot of the same start-up ambition, entrepreneurialism and innovation at Mills Oakley and I am looking forward to making my contribution to that story," he said.

Robert commenced with Mills Oakley on November 1.

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